

The Valley Railroad.

EDITOR GAZETTE: Having read this evening the very able argument about the Valley Road in your paper I beg you to accept a few lines from me in regard to it. As it seems that the terminus will be in San Francisco, and not in West Berkeley—as it ought to be—we should try our level best to have the road pass through our town. The people of the California and Nevada R. R. would be only too glad, I dare say, to sell their right of way to the Valley Road. Where in the world could they—the directors of the new road—find a better place to build shops for car building and repairing than here? Land is cheap enough, the Lord knows, and will be offered at reasonable prices by our committeemen, but the great trouble is simply this: The lack of push from our part. Being the centre of education in this State, we simply think that the plum has to drop into our lap—if it wants to do so or not—we appoint a committee, and that seems to end the matter. Our West Berkeley Improvement Club is suffering under the same disadvantage, proposing good measures for this end of the town, and having them antagonized by others, not living exactly where we do. I do not want to call names, but must confess that it looks at this moment very discouraging for anyone to go to work about any decisive or energetic movement for the well fare of our town.

Still, something should and must be done to prevent the new railroad from leaving our town entirely out of the programme. What it is, I leave it to you, who know more about it than your subscriber,

WEST BERKELEYAN.

A Clue.

Mrs. James W. Clift who lives at 1412 Baker street in San Francisco was robbed yesterday morning at about 6:30 o'clock by a man whom the police believe to be the man who murdered Cornelius Stagg. After the robbery he joined another man of shorter stature. She describes the man as being very tall, with small brown eyes close together, a large nose, clear complexion and a light moustache. He wore a soft hat, light trousers and a long brown coat.

Postmaster-General.

Postmaster-General Bissell will not retire from his position in the Cabinet until the first of next May. Two reasons are assigned, the first being that the lease of his present residence in Washington as well as the lease of his home in Buffalo does not expire until that date. The second reason, which is much better, is that his successor is not ready to take up the duties.

Last evening one of the San Francisco dailies said that another will made by Fair had come to light and was in the possession of another lady who had gone out of town.

A Compromise.

Alice Edith Blythe has signed papers conveying all of her interest in the Blythe estate to Florence Blythe Hinckley. The documents signed were nineteen in number and conveyed her interest in property located in California, Oregon, Mexico and Arizona. It is stated that in the compromise the amount received was less than \$1000. She still claims that she is the widow of Thomas Blythe and holds on to the name.

What her former legal adviser, Mr. Highton will do in the premises, remains to be seen.

The Consolidated Piedmont Cable Company's plant was sold at auction yesterday by Receiver Bishop for \$82,000. There was only one bid. There is an indebtedness of over a million dollars to be paid with it. C. R. Bishop, the Honolulu banker was the ostensible purchaser. The bond holders are probably behind him as they intend to reorganize the company and operate the road. There will be no interruption of travel.

The Board of Directors of the Mechanics Institute have repudiated a circular letter sent out by F. Duke Smith, signed "The Mechanics Institute." He had asked the Board for a letter to the Manufacturer's Convention, calling attention to a book which he had contracted to issue, giving a history origin and growth of the Institute, and they refused to give it.

Members of the Ordinance and Judiciary Committee of Oakland and Superintendent Wilder of the Southern Pacific had a wordy fight yesterday about opening Sixteenth street and thus cutting the railroad dead line. From the reports of it one would say the railroad representative came out second best.

An attempt is being made by the Board of Supervisors to have the Contra Costa Water Company clean up the water sheds from which Oakland gets her supply of drinking water. Residents who see the Oakland Enquirer will not have much of a relish for the water they are forced to use.

Vallejo has voted to bond the town for an \$18,000 school house. This is progressive and a good sign that the place is getting awakened up. If that town does not go ahead it will not be any fault of the Vallejo Chronicle.

The Giant Powder Company has settled with Carl Paschold for damages done to his house in Berkeley by the explosion of the powder works in July 1892. The amount paid was \$1760.

Captain George A. Norton has been appointed to act as a commissioner in Alameda county under the law to bury Union soldiers, sailors and marines, vice H. T. Smith, removed.

There is one thing that may be truthfully said about the late James G. Fair—he had a strong will power.

Mark Wont Fight.

The lively discussion between Mark Twain and Max O'Rell has led to the printing in several Eastern papers of stories of Twain's fighting qualities, as shown in many instances on this coast when he was a reporter. They give an anecdote of Mark's encounter with "Red Hot Dick" in Virginia City, wherein Dick shot a cigar out of Twain's mouth and the humorist clipped with a bullet a piece from the desperado's left ear. It is very evident that some old Californian has been giving these papers a big "fill." Mark was never celebrated for his courage out here. In fact, he once showed the white feather when some jokers perpetrated a mock stage robbery and relieved him of a few dollars. Wild oxen couldn't haul Mark into a duel any more than they could drag this gasconading Frenchman into any fight in which he would be in danger of having a hole put in his hide.

Heirs of Aneke Jane Webber, who reside in San Francisco, are looking after their interests in property that she was once interested in New York. The property is now in the possession of the Trinity Church, a corporation, and is estimated to be of a value of over \$500,000,000. It embraces about 192 acres in New York city.

A war has been declared by the Sailors' Union against the ship owners all along the Coast. An increase of \$10 is demanded. There has been such a demand for seamen lately that the supply is getting narrowed down, so that the Union thinks it can handle the men now available.

Santa Barbara is making preparations for her annual flower show. Exhibitions of this kind have been held there for several years and they are pronounced to be the finest of any held in the southern part of the State.

A despatch from England has been received announcing the death of Lady Yarde-Buller, formerly Leila Kirkham, daughter of the late General R. W. Kirkham of Oakland.

A society has been incorporated in San Francisco for the encouragement of silk culture. This industry has had a hard struggle in California but may come out all right yet.

As the insurance agents of Oakland have found it impossible to make a combine there is every probability of insurance being comparatively cheap for awhile.

A gas well has been struck in Sonoma on the Agua Rica ranch, belonging to Captain Boyes. The water comes up in strong force from a depth of 70 feet.

One of the successes of the late Legislature was to raise the State tax about 30 per cent above the amount the Republican party was pledged to.

The late frosts did not affect the fruit about Newcastle, on the line of the Central Pacific Railroad.

Fooling With Uncle Remus.

A Charleston negro, who was in Atlanta on the Fourth of July, made a mistake. He saw Uncle Remus edging his way through the crowd, and thought he knew him.

"Howdy, daddy Ben," the stranger exclaimed; "I tink I nebber see you no mo." Wey you gwyn? He hot for true, aint he?"

"Daddy who?" asked Uncle Remus, straightening himself up with dignity. "Which?"

"I knew you in Charl'st'n an' den Sewanny. I spec I dun grow way from 'membrance."

"You knowed me in Charl'st'n, an' den in Sewanny?"

"He been long time, aint he, Daddy Ben?"

"Dat's w'at's a pesterin' un me. How much you reckon you know'd me?"

"He good while pas': when I wer pickanniny. He long time ago. Wey you gwyn, Daddy Ben?"

"W'at does you season your recollection wid for ter make it hole on so?" inquired the old man.

"I dunno. He stick hese'f. I see you comin' 'long'n an' I say 'dey Daddy Ben.' I tink I see you no mo', an' I shakv you by de han'. Wey you gwan? Dey no place yer wey we git wine?"

Uncle Remus stared at the strange darkey curiously for a moment, and then he seized him by the arm.

"Come yer, son, whar dey ain't no folks, an' lemme drap some Jawjiv'iniment in dem years er youn. Youer mighty fur ways fum home, an' yer wanter be lookin' out fur yo'se'f. Fus and fo'mus, youer thumpin' de wrong watermillion. Youer whistlin' up de wrong chube. I ain't bin roun' de country much. I ain't bin to Charl'st'n an' needer is I tuck in Sevanny; but you couldn't rig up no game on me dat I wouldn't tumble unto it de minnit I laid my eyeballs on you. W'en hit comes ter dat I'm ole man Tumbler, fum Tumblersville—I is dst. Hit takes one er deze yer w'te men fer ter trap my jedgment. But w'en a nigger comes jabberin' roun' like he got a mouf full er rice straw, he ain't got no mo' chance 'long side er me dan a sick sparrer wid a squinch owl. You got ter travil wid a circus 'fo' you git away wid me. You better go 'long an' get yo' kyarpetsack an' skip de town. Youer de freshest nigger w'at I seen yit."

The Charleston negr passed on just as Willis King came up.

"Mars Willis, did yer see dat smart Ellick?"

Yes; what's the matter with him?"

"He's one er doze yer scurshun niggers fum Charl'st'in. I seed you a stannin' ober agin de corner yander, an' if dat nigger'd a drawd his monty kyards on me, I wuz a gwine-ter holler fer you. Would youer come, Mars Willis?"

"Why, certainly, Uncle Remus."

"Dat's w'at I 'lowd. Little mor'en he'd a bin aboard er de wrong waggin. Dat's w'at he'd a done."

Whereupon the old man chuckled at the idea and sauntered off to where he could see (as he expressed it) "dem niggers a sportin'."

Beating an Insurance Company.

This is the way a man named Gaines of St. Peter, Minn., got the better of an insurance company: Many years ago Mr. Gaines insured his life for \$3400. After many years of payment of \$90 a year premium, at the age of 70 years he asked the officers of the company how much they would pay him to cancel his policy. They offered him \$2000. He refused to take it, but made them this proposition: "If you will give me \$416 a year until death, which is \$8 a week, I will cancel the policy."

"Agreed," said the company, which thought it had a cinch in its favor, as he would not live many years. Since that time he has lived eighteen years, and the company has paid him his yearly stipulation of \$416, which up to this time amounted to \$7488 the saving of the \$90 premium in the eighteen years and the interest make it the snug sum of over \$18,000 that the old man gained by his bargain. Mr. Gaines is well preserved at 88 and bids fair to receive many more payments at the hands of the company, which struck a tough piece of human timber upon which to base calculations.

Deceitful Appearances.

Ex-Speaker Reed tells a very funny story about a formal affair where the guests were not very well acquainted with each other, or the host with the guests. There were about twenty persons at the table, and the host was at a loss how to proceed. It struck him that perhaps in so large a company there were those who would feel surprised if grace was not said at the beginning of the meal. He decided, therefore, to have some one perform this ceremony, but the question was, whom should he ask. Looking down the board, he spied a clerically dressed gentleman with the solemn countenance usually attributed to deacons and ministers of the gospel. Catching the eye of the solemn visaged gentleman, the host pointed to him and said: "I think it would be very proper and fitting that we have grace said before our meal. Will you, sir, kindly oblige us?" "I suppose you are talking to me, sir," replied the clerical looking gentleman, "but I'm—if I can hear a word you say. I am as deaf as a post." The dinner proceeded without grace being said.

A New England Epitaph.

"The following epitaph," says a correspondent, "copied from a tombstone in a graveyard in New England, is an interesting example of the coarse flippancy so often found in epitaphs in 'the good old days':"

Mary Ann lies here at rest,
With her head on Abraham's breast,
It is very nice for Mary Ann,
But rather tough for Abraham,

THE GAZETTE.

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BY THE

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WILL A. NASH.....EDITOR.
JOHN O. HANSCOM BUSINESS MANG'R

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 1895.

HAWAII'S MINISTER NOT WANTED.

Secretary Gresham has requested Minister Willis to formally communicate to the Hawaiian Minister of foreign affairs the fact that Minister Thurston is a very disagreeable man to him. This is virtually a demand for his recall. The particular grounds for complaint is giving knowledge to the newspapers before the Department gets it. Probably no Minister from the present Hawaiian government will be very acceptable to the present administration, which has been forced to eat crow by that little nation nestled in the wide, wide sea.

RESULTS OF COMPETITION.

Telephone companies are springing up everywhere in thickly settled portions of the State. It is quite probable that they will be able to do local work, but the old company has the advantage of long connections, which it will take time to overcome. The Sunset Company, on the Pacific Coast, will endeavor to meet the coming competition by still further extending their lines and covering a great deal of new territory.

The old prices have been considered by the public to be extraordinary high. As an evidence of the big price heretofore charged it will be noticed that when competition comes in the field a rate less than one-half of the old one is adopted.

The benefits of competition are always with the public. At the same time business is increased and very often those engaged make more money by the greater amount accomplished than with a smaller amount at high prices.

LEGISLATIVE ARITHMETIC.

It appears that advantage was taken of the arithmetic when the assistant engrossing and enrolling clerks were employed during the session of the last Legislature. The pay by law is \$8 per day. On the basis of \$40 allowed this would give five clerks employment. More places were wanted by office seekers and a transposition was made, that is giving eight clerks employment at \$5 per day which took up the full amount. The clerks understood this at the time. Now that the session is ended they claim the extra compensation and are backed up by a decision of Attorney General Fitzgerald.

With this kind of arithmetical juggling there is no wonder that the late Legislature's expense account foots up larger than any of its predecessors, after allowing a certain percentage for progression, which is seldom taken into account when speaking of increasing expense of succeeding legislative bodies of growing America.

MANUFACTURERS CONVENTION.

A temporary organization of this body was effected yesterday and the officers heretofore named in the GAZETTE were elected. Hugh Craig made the address of welcome to the delegates which was well received. At the conclusion of his remarks the different committees were announced. President Hallidie followed with an address ably reviewing the resources and industries of the State. Many of the good points he made were answered by loud cheers. The Committee on resolution made a report submitting resolves which went to the vital points for which the convention was called.

The Committee on campaign and permanent organizations then presented their report which was quite long and necessarily so, in order to reach all matters which will come within the working province of the institution.

An invitation, given by the Union Iron Works to the delegates, to take a trip around the bay, in a steamer to be provided for the purpose, was accepted.

There being only three delegates from the Labor Councils present, it was voted to allow them to represent the workingmen of the city in the convention.

This is the birth of what may prove to be one of the most important body of men, for the interests of the Pacific Coast, chronicled. The convention is composed of men who are interested and in earnest about the work which is necessary to be performed. That it may prove a success should be the heartfelt wish of every man, woman and child.

Governor Budd concluded his address by saying: "Although a Democrat I favor the protection of our State industries."

POLITICAL ANNOUNCEMENTS.

JOHN SQUIRES

Hereby announces himself as a candidate for the office of

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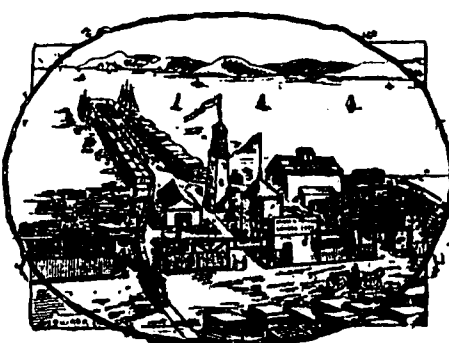
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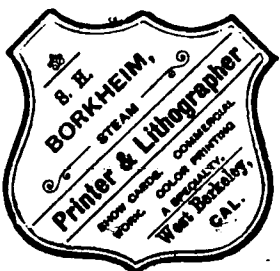
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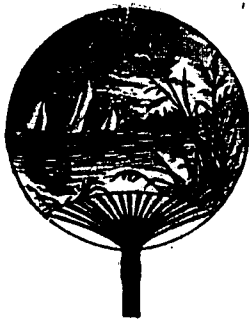
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For fine candies, teas, coffees, flavoring extracts and notions go to J. R. Fenton's new store at 2152 Dwight way, near depot, where you will be waited upon by the ever obliging Miss Speck.

If you are in need of Potatoes, Hay, Grain, Wood or Coal, don't fail to go to C. Demetrak & Co., Commission Merchants and wholesale dealers in the above articles. Shattuck avenue, near University avenue. Telephone, No. 43; P. O. Box, 115.

Madame Kohne, midwife and ladies' nurse, has removed from 1912 Fifth street, to Eighth street, between University avenue and Addison street.

Call at the Dwight Way Station Barber Shop, near Shattuck avenue. First-class attendance.

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L. A. Cavallier, proprietor of the Golden Gate Supply Company, will sell coal, hay and grain, very cheap, and everything you get there can be relied upon. See ad.

LOST—A small diamond scarf pin. Finder will be rewarded by returning the same to this office or to Constable T. G. Brotherton.

Walter Magee will deliver the next lecture of the series now inaugurated in Berkeley. It will be an illustrated one, showing muscular development as taken by photograph. This is something new, which Prof. Lange has discovered and should prove a drawing cord to all classes of people. The subject of the lecture will be "Physical Culture."

The month of March is more than half gone and it would appear that if we are to get the average amount of rain falling at this time of year it will come down in chunks as it did last night.

W. B. P. Club.

The West Berkeley Progressive Club met last evening. Except routine work but little was done, the discussions being general and informal in character. It having been decided that the engine house would be used only on occasions of very large meetings the club decided to meet in Dickason & Pages's office in the future. This firm is having electric lights placed in the rooms for better convenience. A transparency will be put across the sidewalk giving notice of the club's headquarters.

A Hard Shower.

A very heavy shower of rain fell last night in Berkeley accompanied by hail. This morning when the sun arose it shined on Berkeley just the same as ever. The atmosphere is clear and temperature moderate. On top of the ground about the bay just such a rain was needed. North winds had dried the surface. Now the grass will grow luxuriantly, likewise the flowers and all living things.

George Henry Jr. of Berkeley delivered quite an interesting lecture last evening on electricity. The attendance was good. Although the illustrations were intended for young people the older ones took a great deal of interest in it. This lecture was one of a series.

In answer to an enquiry as to why an ordinance was not ordered to be drawn up to cover the license table, the reason is that the work was not complete. A portion of the matter was laid over until the next meeting of the Board.

The trial of Mrs. C. Howard upon the charge of petty larceny preferred by Miss Hawkins of North Berkeley is in progress as we go to press. A jury has been selected and the examination of witnesses commenced.

The Executive Committee of the Independent party met last evening and selected delegates in all the wards but one which will be completed by the time the Committee meets again.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Nonpartisans last evening the selection of delegates for the Convention was postponed until next Tuesday evening.

It is a pretty sight of an afternoon to look down University avenue at the lady cyclists taking a spin. Some are not as graceful as others but they are all pretty.

The arc light on the corner of Jones and Sixth streets failed to give forth a glimmer on Monday night.

From present appearances it looks as if the woman suffrage section would be placed in the constitution of the new State of Utah. Ten out of fifteen members of the Election and Suffrage Committee of the Constitutional Convention, of that Territory are in favor of it.

Judge Frick has appointed F. R. Girard, Clarence Crowell and George McMullen to appraise the estate of Charles A. Klinkner.

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OFFICE OF THE
Assessor of Alameda County.

Poll Tax Notice.

OAKLAND, March 4, 1895.
PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that the State Poll Tax of Two Dollars for the year 1895 is now due and payable at my office, Room 1, Court House, or to a deputy assessor.

SEC. 3839 of the Political Code reads as follows:
Every male inhabitant of the State, over twenty-one and under 60 years of age, except paupers, insane persons and Indians, not taxed, must annually pay a poll tax of two dollars, provided the same be paid between the first Monday in March and the first Monday in July, then it shall be three dollars.

SEC. 3846 of the Political Code makes it the duty of the Assessor to "demand Poll Tax of every person liable therefor, and on the neglect or refusal of such persons to pay, he must collect by seizure and sale of any personal property owned by such person."

Under sections 429 to 434 every person who refuses to give his own name or the name of any person in his employ, or who in any manner obstructs the Assessor or any of his deputies in the collection of the State Poll Tax, is guilty of a misdemeanor, and liable to a fine of \$500 or imprisonment in the County Jail, or both such fine and imprisonment.

Only those persons under twenty-one or over sixty years of age are exempt. Poll Tax must be paid on demand.

Henry P. Dalton,
Assessor of Alameda County.

OFFICE OF THE
Assessor of Alameda County.

NOTICE TO TAX PAYERS.

OAKLAND, March 4, 1895.
ALL PERSONS, firms, company, corporations and associations are required to deliver at the Assessor's office, at the Court House, City of Oakland, County of Alameda, immediately, a statement under oath of all property, both real and personal, owned, or claimed by him, her or them, or in their possession or held in trust for others, at 12 o'clock meridian on the FIRST MONDAY IN MARCH, 1895, in accordance with the constitution.

Refusal or neglect to make a sworn statement of all the property owned or held in trust, will subject the person so refusing or neglecting to make such sworn statements to the full penalty of the law—one hundred dollars fine and guilty of a misdemeanor.

All persons owning real estate that has heretofore been assessed in the wrong name on the real estate assessment book, or who have purchased real estate within the last year, are requested to appear with their deeds, at the Assessor's office, and have the proper changes made for the year 1895. Immediate attention is necessary, as work on the book has already been commenced.

Proper blanks may be obtained at the Assessor's office.

Henry P. Dalton,
Assessor of Alameda County.



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